

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A paper discharging apparatus of an image forming apparatus to discharge papers, including a body having a paper outlet, an image being printed on the papers at the paper outlet, the paper discharging apparatus comprising:

a paper guide member which is movably disposed between first and second positions with respect to a paper discharging direction of the papers to stack the papers discharged from the paper outlet in first and second placing positions disposed relative to each other along the discharging direction, respectively wherein the paper guide member comprises:

a pivot shaft pivotably supported by the paper outlet, and

a guide panel supported by the pivot shaft being exposed to an outside of the paper outlet, and contacted with the lower surface of the papers in the second position; and

a driving unit to selectively move the paper guide member between the first and second positions,

wherein when the paper guide member is in the first position the papers drop to the first placing position from the paper outlet without being guided by the paper guide member and wherein the guide panel moves to the first position by pivotingly falling from the second position due to a weight thereof, when the driving unit is turned off.

2. (previously presented) The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper guide member is pivotably mounted at the paper outlet, and when the paper guide member is in the second position, a lower surface of each of the papers contacts the paper guide member to place the papers at the second placing position which is further than the first placing position from the paper outlet

3. (currently amended) The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper guide member further comprises:

~~a pivot shaft pivotably supported by the paper outlet;~~

~~a guide panel supported by the pivot shaft being exposed to an outside of the paper outlet, and contacted with the lower surface of the papers in the second position; and~~

a driving panel extended in a direction perpendicular to the guide panel to pivot in relation to the movement of the driving unit being interfered by the driving unit.

4. (previously presented) The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein first and second placing positions of the discharged papers are determined according to a length of the

paper guide member in the paper discharging direction.

5. (original) The discharging apparatus of claim 3, wherein the guide panel comprises a pair of panels formed symmetrically.

6. (cancelled)

7. (original) The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper guide member comprises a driving panel and the driving unit comprises a solenoid to switch on/off to forcibly move the paper guide member to the first and second positions by interfering with the driving panel of the paper guide member.

8. (currently amended) An apparatus to discharge papers in a discharge direction, comprising:

a guide disposed between first and second guide positions to respectively stack the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed so that trailing edges of the papers are disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction, wherein the guide comprises:

a shaft,

a first panel extending from the shaft to guide the discharged papers when the guide is in the first guide position, and

a second panel extending from the shaft; and

a driver to selectively move the guide between the first and second guide positions,

wherein the guide moves to the first position by pivotingly falling from the second position due to a weight thereof when a force from the driver on the second panel is removed.

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 408, wherein the first panel has a greater length in a direction perpendicular to the shaft than the second panel, ~~and the first panel moves due to a weight thereof when a force from the driver on the second panel is removed.~~

12. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 408, wherein the discharged papers do not contact the guide when the guide is in the second guide position.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 98, wherein the driver is a solenoid.

14. (currently amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a body defining a paper outlet to discharge papers having images formed thereon in a discharge direction; and

a discharge apparatus to sort the discharged papers, comprising:

a guide disposed between first and second guide positions to respectively stack the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed so that trailing edges of the papers are disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction, and

a driver to selectively move the guide between the first and second guide positions,

wherein the guide moves to the first position by pivotingly falling from the second position due to a weight thereof when a force from the driver on the guide is removed.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus to discharge papers in a discharge direction, comprising:

stacking means for stacking the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, disposed between first and second guide positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed so that trailing edges of the papers are disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction; and

drive means for selectively moving the stacking means between the first and second guide positions.

wherein the stacking means comprises:

a shaft,

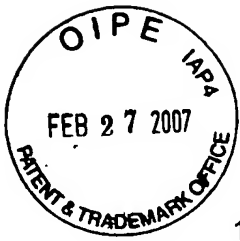
a first panel extending from the shaft to guide the discharged papers when the stacking means is in the first guide position, and

a second panel extending from the shaft to be moved by the drive means,

wherein the stacking means moves to the first guide position by pivotingly falling from the second guide position due to a weight thereof when a force from the drive means on the second panel is removed.

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)



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18. (currently amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:
discharging means for discharging papers having images formed thereon in a discharge direction; and

sorting means for sorting the discharged papers, comprising:

stacking means for stacking the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed so that trailing edges of the papers are disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction, and

moving means for selectively moving the stacking means between first and second guide positions to respectively stack the discharged papers in the first and second stacking positions,

wherein the stacking means moves to the first guide position by pivotingly falling from the second guide position due to a weight thereof when a force from the moving means on the stacking means is removed.

19. (new) The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the guide panel moves to the first position by pivotingly falling from the second position only due to a weight thereof, when the driving unit is turned off.